

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 COME-00 EB-07

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01

/058 W

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R 181515Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3467

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6939

DEPT FOR EUR/CE, SCA AND VO; FRANKFURT FOR INS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, CVIS, GE, US

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR EMBASSY OFFICIALS:U.S. VISAS FOR GDR  
BUSINESS VISITORS.

REF:A) STATE 255156( NOTAL), B) BERLIN 5873 PARA 5.

1. REFTEL RECEIVED BY EMBASSY ON OCTOBER 15, COINCIDENTALLY  
WITH A REVIEW OF BUSINESS VISA PROCEDURES BEING CONDUCTED BY  
CHIEF, CONSULAR SECTION AND REPRESENTATIVE COURIER OF  
AUSLANDS-DIENST REISE( ADR) ( FOREIGN SERVICE TRAVEL) SECTION  
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, WHICH WAS TRIGGERED BY A NUMBER  
OF TELEPHONE CALLS AND TELEGRAMS WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS  
US FIRMS ENQUIRING ABOUT VISA ISSUANCES TO GDR BUSINESS  
TRAVELERS OF INTEREST TO THEM.

2. EMBOFF REPEATED FOLLOWING POINTS TO BOTH US FIRMS AND TO  
ADR COURIER REPRESENTATIVE:

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A) IN ALL CASES SINCE EMBASSY OPENED , B-1 VISAS

HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN A TIMELY FASHION AND RETURNED TO  
ADR PRIOR TO PLANNED TRAVEL DATE OF GDR BUSINESSMAN TO  
US.

B) IN NUMEROUS EMERGENCY CASES, EMBASSY HAS COM-  
PLETED NECESSARY WAIVER AND OTHER ACTION TELEPHONICALLY  
TO ENSURE THAT US ( AND GDR) BUSINESS INTERESTS ARE NOT  
DISADVANTAGED BY US REGULATORY PROCEDURES. WE WILL CON-  
TINUE TO DO THIS.

C) ALTHOUGH WE REQUEST A MINIMUM OF THREE WEEKS TO  
COMPLETE OUR FORMALITIES, SUBMISSIONS FOR TRAVEL IN SHORTER  
PERIODS WILL OF COURSE BE ACCEPTED.

D) US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, I.E. DEPARTMENT AND INS,  
FRANKFURT, ARE SENSITIVE TO NEEDS OF US BUSINESS.  
HOWEVER, WE CANNOT BEGIN TO PROCESS VISA APPLICATIONS UNTIL  
WE RECEIVE THEM HERE.

E) THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF ALL CONCERNED  
DID WHAT THEY COULD TO ENSURE TIMELY SUBMISSIONS.

3. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE RAISING OF THIS OPERATIONAL  
PROBLEM BY EUR/CE DIRECTOR ANDERSON WITH AMBASSADOR  
SIEBER AND PARTICULARLY HIS FORMULATION OF THE PROBLEM  
AS BEING CENTERED IN THE CUMBERSOME NATURE OF THE GDR  
BUREAUCRACY ITSELF. THIS IS, ACCORDING TO OUR OBSER-  
VATIONS, EXACTLY THE CASE.  
POLANSKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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